

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MONTEV 04970 281758Z
ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 PM-04 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 TRSE-00 COME-00 /023 W
-----281820Z 012454 /41

R 281740Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2890

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTEVIDEO 4970

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, UY
SUBJECT: URUGUAYAN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ORDER FOR FIREARMS

REF: STATE 311251, MONTEVIDEO 4651

1. THE REVOLVERS ORDERED FROM SMITH AND WESSON BY THE URUGUAYAN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ARE INTENDED FOR POLICE USE. WE ARE INFORMED THAT SUBSTANTIAL PART OF ORDER IS FOR REVOLVERS TO BE CARRIED BY RANK AND FILE POLICEMEN.

2. DENIAL OF THIS TRANSACTION IS NOT JUSTIFIED. FIRST, IT WAS A CASH COMMERCIAL SALE BY A REPUTABLE U.S. FIRM. SECOND, THERE IS NOTHING IN LAW WHICH WOULD SUGGEST ANYTHING ILLEGAL IN THE SALE. THIRD, IF DENIAL STEMS FROM HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS, IT IS MISPLACED AS THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION HERE, ALTHOUGH NOT PERFECT, IS NOT THAT PORTRAYED BY URUGUAY'S PRINCIPAL ACCUSERS. FINALLY, THE CONGRESS, IN ITS STRONGEST ACTION AGAINST URUGUAY, THE KOCH AMENDMENT, DID NOT PROHIBIT THE SALE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO URUGUAY IF PURCHASED THROUGH COMMERCIAL SOURCES. IF THE CONGRESS PERMITTED CONTINUED SALES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO THIS COUNTRY, WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT INTENDED TO PROHIBIT -- EVEN BY IMPLICATION -- SALE OF POLICE SERVICE REVOLVERS.
SIRACUSA

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, SALES, EXPORT LICENSES, END USE CHECKS, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, TRADE CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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